Message Text

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PAGE 01 BAMAKO 03299 121735Z ACTION AF-10

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O P 121511Z JUL 78 FM AMEMBASSY BAMAKO TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0034 INFO USICA PRIORITY AMEMBASSY DAKAR AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU AMEMBASSY PARIS

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DEPARTMENT FOR AF/P AND PASS WHITE HOUSE MR. HARDEN; USICA FOR AF; ROME ALSO FOR FODAG; PARIS ALSO FOR OECD; DAKAR FOR BANJUL AS APPROPRIATE

E. O. 11652: N/A

AMEMBASSY ROME

TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, LILLIAN)

SUBJECT: MISS LILLIAN'S VISIT TO THE SAHEL: MALI

REF: BAMAKO 3039

- 1. FOLLOWING IS DRAFT TEXT FOR MISS LILLIAN'S RBMARKS AT PRESIDENT TRAORE'S LUNCH ON JULY 31:
- 2. MR. PRESIDENT, MADAM PRESIDENT, DISTINGUISHED GUESTS:

FIRST OF ALL, LET ME SAY HOW HONORED I AM TO BE INVITED TO LUNCH TODAY WITH PRESIDENT AND MRS. TRAORE. ALTHOUGH I HAVE BEEN IN MALI ONLY A SHORT TIME, I HAVE ALREADY BEEN VERY MUCH IMPRESSED BY THE WARMTH AND HOSPITALITY OF THE MALIAN PEOPLE. I WANT TO CONVEY TO YOU IN TURN THE SINCERE GREETINGS AND BEST LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WISHES OF PRESIDENT AND MRS. CARTER AND OF THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES.

I HAVE COME TO MALI AS PRESIDENT CARTER'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE, AT THE INVITATION OF THE CILSS MEMBER NATIONS, TO LEARN ABOUT THE EFFORTS YOU ARE MAKING TO COMBAT THE EFFECTS OF THE DROUGHT. THE PRESIDENT WAS NOT ABLE TO VISIT MALI AT THIS TIME,

BUT HE HAS SPOKEN TO ME OF HIS RECENT TRAVELS TO NIGERIA AND LIBERIA, AND I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT BOTH HE AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE INTERESTED IN YOUR COUNTRY'S DEVELOPMENT. WE WANT TO WORK WITH YOU TO SOLVE THE PROBLEMS OF FOOD AND ENERGY PRODUCTION, PROBLEMS FACED NOT ONLY BY THE DEVELOPING NATIONS BUT BY ALL THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD.

SO I AM EAGERLY LOOKING FORWARD TO TRAVELING UP-COUNTRY TOMORROW, WHERE I WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO SEE THE MALIAN COUNTRYSIDE AND TO OBSERVE CURRENT DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS FIRST-HAND.

I AM ALSO DELIGHTED, MADAM PRESIDENT, TO BE IN MALI DURING PAN-AFRICAN WOMEN'S DAY. I KNOW THAT THE NATIONAL UNION OF MALIAN WOMEN IS A STRONG AND PRODUCTIVE ORGANIZATION, AND I LOOK FORWARD TO PARTICIPATING IN THEIR FESTIVITIES LATER TODAY.

FROM YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, I AM CONFIDENT THAT I SHALL LEARN MUCH ABOUT THE PLANS AND ASPIRATIONS OF THE MALIAN PEOPLE. I KNOW THAT PRESIDENT CARTER WILL BE MOST INTERESTED TO HEAR YOUR IDEAS AND THOSE OF THE MANY MALIANS I HOPE TO SPEAK WITH DURING MY STAY. IT IS MY SINCERE WISH AND MY BELIEF THAT THIS VISIT WILL SERVE TO STRENGTHEN THE BONDS OF UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND MALI. END DRAFT TEXT. BYRNE

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